

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, February 17, 2006**

**Members Present:** Dave Stengel; Julie Hayes (Designee for Judge Donald Armstrong, Jr.); Tom Campbell; William DeNardi; Reverend Charles Duncan; Judge Stephen George; Jay Lambert (Designee for Dan Goyette); Roger Henderson; Tom Dyke (Designee for David Huber); Steve Jenkins; Richard Lewis; Marjean Martin; Carolyn Franklin (Designee for Tony Miller); Laura Volk; Judge Steve Mershon; Lt. Col. Terri Winstead (Designee for Chief White); and Louis Willis.

**Excused Members:** Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Kim Allen; Walker Cunningham; Patricia Combs; Sheriall Cunningham; and Tim Vize.

**Guests Present:** Major Rodney Milburn (Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD)); Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Allison Kern (Jefferson County Drug Court); Russ Stapleton (LMPD); Bettie Kehrt (Citizen); Peggy Kidwell (Criminologist); Michael Muth (Citizen); and Larry Robbins (Kentuckians Voice for Crime Victims).

**Staff Present:** David Nicholson; Stephanie Stidham; Faith Hartlage; and Barbara West.

**I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of Judge Montano, Chair, Dave Stengel, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**II. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Stengel announced that the new Metro Council representative for the Commission will be David Tandy. The newest citizen representative, Bill DeNardi, was recognized and presented with a Criminal Justice Commission lapel pin. Mr. DeNardi served on the Commission in the past and was welcomed to his new term. An updated Commission membership list was included in the agenda packet. Mr. Stengel asked members to review the listing and advise staff of any edits.

**III. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Tom Campbell, Director, Louisville Metro Corrections** - reported that as a result of recent training in Colorado on "Inmate Behavior Management" by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), Louisville Metro Corrections has been chosen by NIC for a site visit to determine if Louisville Metro qualifies for a pilot project on this management technique. Mr. Campbell introduced Richard Geaither of NIC to report on the organization and the project. Mr. Geaither, Correctional Program Specialist, NIC Jails Division, was a former employee of Jefferson County Corrections and is familiar with the facility and its complexity. NIC is a division of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and employs approximately 75 employees. The Federal Bureau of Prisons assists states and local governments in managing incarcerated populations. The Prisons Division, located in Washington, D.C., assists with state operations and the Jails Division, located in Colorado, assists local governments to effectively manage local facilities.

NIC provides training, technical assistance and research. Inmate Behavior Management focuses on balancing the needs of both staff and inmates looking at the performance of a jail based on six elements:

- Assessing risks and needs
- Assigning inmates to housing
- Meeting inmates' basic needs
- Defining and conveying expectations for inmate behavior
- Supervising inmates
- Keeping inmates productively occupied

From these six elements, a framework can be developed for staff to implement. NIC is in a position to explore what's needed for Louisville Metro as a pilot approach is developed and Louisville Metro is showing a significant interest in this project.

**B. Elisa Freeman-Carr, Program Director, Alzheimer's Association** - stated that individuals who can remember what they have forgotten are not suffering from Alzheimer's disease, a progressive, degenerative disease which attacks the brain. The Greater Louisville and Southern Indiana chapters of the Alzheimer's Association has offices in Louisville, Lexington and Evansville and provides services to 125 counties with 24/7 access through their helpline 1-800-272-3900. The mission of the Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research and to enhance the care and support for individuals, families and caregivers. Ms. Freeman-Carr mentioned the "Safe Return" program which provides memory impaired individuals with an identifying bracelet and registers them in a national database that allows authorities access to vital information in order to return them to their homes should they wander away. Ms. Freeman provided brochures on this program, fact cards on the Association, and information sheets on the warning signs of Alzheimer's.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005 MEETING**

The meeting summary of the November 17, 2005 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted. At this time, Mr. Stengel also welcomed new Commission member, Chief Circuit Court Judge Steve Mershon. Additionally, he announced that Judge Stephen George had received the highest rating of the Family Court judges.

#### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commission staff reported on the following:

**A. Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC)** - Barbara West reported that the Council met on January 25<sup>th</sup> and at that time, a 2005 System Snapshot Implementation Plan was presented by Kim Allen. This plan was a follow-up to the Snapshot report presented to Mayor Abramson in October. A follow-up meeting of the DVPCC subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs has been scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the Implementation Plan and determine an action agenda for the subcommittees and full council.

**B. Legislative Committee** - Faith Hartlage referenced the Legislative Summary in the agenda packets. February 28<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for filing new House bills and March 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for filing new Senate bills. Ms. Hartlage is tracking the criminal justice and public protection legislation (101 House Bills and 33 Senate Bills). Particularly mentioned was HB 3, a comprehensive bill consolidating some 15 separate bills relating to sex offenders. Weekly updates will be provided electronically on Mondays to Commission members.

**B. Computerization Committee** – Stephanie Stidham reported the electronic citation process is being utilized, data is successfully being run and training is on-going. Committee

members are also working with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security on the implementation of the State wireless data standard (IPMobileNet.) The next scheduled meeting of the committee is March 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

David Nicholson also welcomed new Commission members. He noted that Tom Campbell and the Jail Policy Committee members have been diligently working behind the scenes to address jail issues. In the juvenile area, Ms. Hartlage is working with the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Advisory Committee and its subcommittees concentrating on alternatives for youth detention. The Field Release grant project implemented a pilot program with LMPD in Division #2, and recently expanded the pilot to the 21 school resource officers. The project also includes partnerships with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and YMCA Safe Place. Staff members are working on homeland security grant initiatives and will be very busy the next couple of months on grant applications. Historically, the General Assembly increases activity during the last two weeks of the Session. It is hoped that the legislative summaries provided by Ms. Hartlage will be beneficial in tracking pertinent legislation.

Dave Stengel mentioned HB 521 which relates to assistance in paying off student loans of attorneys working for the Attorney General, prosecutors, and public defenders. The bill would create a loan assistance program funded by a percentage of fees for court costs. Mr. Stengel stated that his office has prosecutors who have incurred significant debt from student loans. This results in staff turnover as these prosecutors secure positions which offer higher salaries.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)** - the Criminal Justice Commission serves as the review body for the JAG programs. In addition to Board members, a member of the Jefferson County Public Schools and a member of a substance abuse treatment program also review and vote on the proposals. Maurice Risner, Jefferson County Public Schools and Allison Kern, Jefferson County Drug Court, serve as these respective representatives. **Major Rodney Milburn, LMPD**, briefed members on the JAG equipment proposal totaling \$193,637.00. The proposal covers the purchase of in-car video cameras and Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) to complement the ongoing electronic citation project. Mr. Stengel called for a formal vote. A motion was made by Judge Steve Mershon, seconded by Roger Henderson, and unanimously approved to accept the grant proposal as presented.

Judge Mershon advised the Commission that fellow member, Walker Cunningham, is battling cancer and is critically ill. He asked members to remember Walker and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

## **VIII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.